

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A smart audio guide system according to the present invention for use in conjunction with an interactive content distribution system that includes a distribution head-end that makes programming available for viewing on a video display device at a viewer subsystem, the viewer subsystem including an audio unit to provide audio for the video display unit, the smart audio

5 guide system comprising a recommendation engine for providing a customized viewing-recommendations list for the viewer subsystem based upon the programming available from the interactive content distribution system and a customized viewing profile developed for the viewer subsystem, a processing unit configured and operative to implement the smart audio guide system functions, a smart audio guide audio package that includes at least a plurality of

10 smart audio guide audio clips corresponding to the customized viewing-recommendations list, and a smart guide actuator that is configured and operative in response to one or more predetermined conditions to activate the processing unit, wherein said processing unit is configured and operative to cause the plurality of smart audio guide audio clips to be uttered in a predetermined mode at the viewer subsystem via the audio unit when activated to identify

15 programs recommended for viewing at the viewer subsystem based upon the customized viewing-recommendations list.